

### **REMARKS**

Prior to a first examination, please enter the foregoing amendments and these remarks.

Claims 1, and 21-23 have been amended. Claims 27-28 have been cancelled without prejudice. Claims 29-47 have been added. Accordingly, claims 1-26 and 29-47 remain pending in the present divisional patent application. Of those pending, claims 1, 21, and 31 are independent claims.

Applicant believes that no new matter has been added by this preliminary amendment.

#### **I) CONTINUATION**

The application papers filed herewith are a true copy of the prior complete application filed on February 27, 2001 having Application No. 09/798,609.

Pursuant to 35 U.S.C. 120 and 37 CFR 1.78(a), this continuation application filed under 37 CFR 1.53(b) claims the benefit of and is a continuation of Application No. 09/798,609, filed February 27, 2001, now allowed.

#### **II) CLAIMS**

Applicant has added new claims 29-47.

New claims 29-30 depend from independent claim 21.

New claim 31 is a new independent claim. Claims 32-47 are dependent claims depending directly or indirectly from claim 31.

Applicant withdraws design claims 27 and 28 from consideration by canceling them without prejudice for prosecution in a later application.

#### **III) SPECIFICATION**

Applicant has amended the specification to update the cross reference to related applications.

**CONCLUSION**

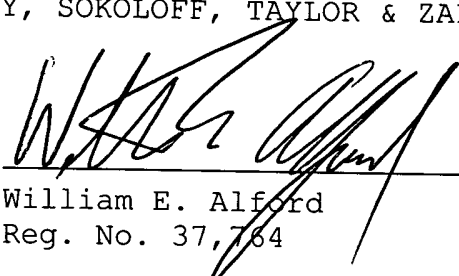
Applicants respectfully request a first examination and consideration of the claims which are now pending in the application in view of the foregoing preliminary amendment.

The Examiner is invited to contact Applicant's undersigned counsel by telephone at (714) 557-3800 to expedite the prosecution of this case should there be any unresolved matters remaining. Please charge any shortage in fees in connection with the filing of this paper to Deposit Account 02-2666 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

BLAKELY, SOKOLOFF, TAYLOR & ZAFMAN, LLP

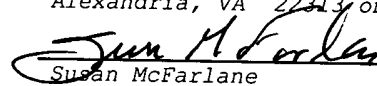
Dated: July 7, 2003

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
William E. Alford  
Reg. No. 37,764

12400 Wilshire Boulevard,  
Seventh Floor  
Los Angeles, California 90025  
(714) 557-3800

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Alexandria, VA 22313, on: July 7, 2003.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Susan McFarlane

7/7/03  
Date